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ABSTRACT

This module on the purpose and use of the blindstitch machine, one in a series on clothing construction for industrial sewing machine operators designed for student self-study, contains three sections. Each section includes the following parts: an introduction, directions, an objective, learning activities, student information, student self-check, check-out activities, and an instructor's final checklist. The sections cover the following topics: purpose and threading of the machine, skip stitching, and folding. The material is illustrated with line drawings. (KC)

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ED233198

MODULE 11

THE

BLINDSTITCH

MACHINE

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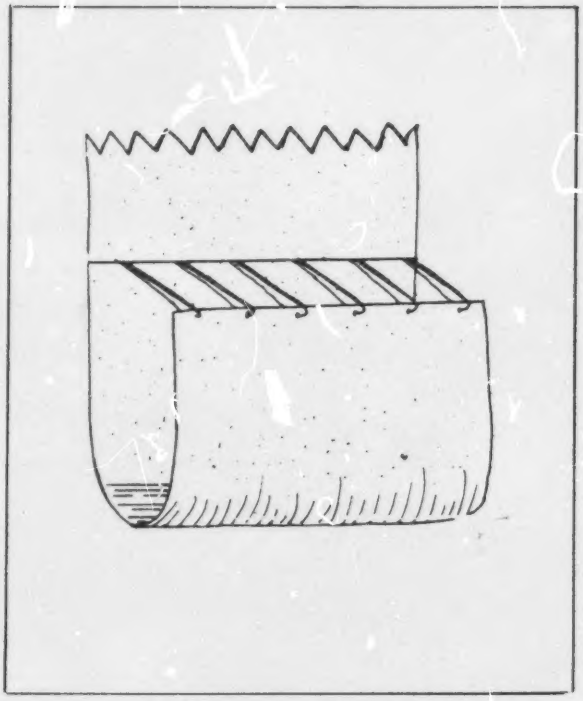
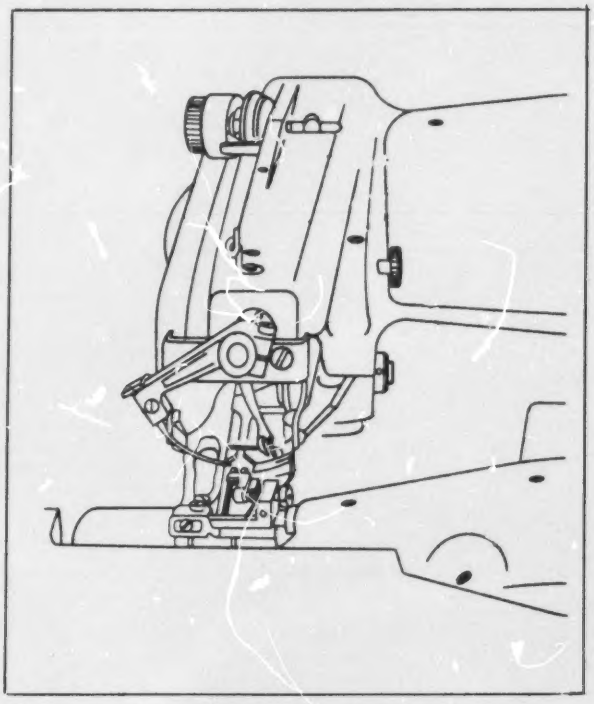
purpose
and
threading the machine





PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE
(Purpose and Threading)

INTRODUCTION

The blindstitch machine makes an almost invisible stitch on one side of heavy weight cloth as in a garment hem. This machine is very simple to operate. In this module, you will learn the purpose of the blindstitch machine and the procedure used in threading the machine.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a blindstitch machine and thread, describe the purpose of the machine with 100 per cent accuracy and thread the machine properly.

If the blindstitch machine is not available, trace the route of the thread through the machine using a diagram. Describe the purpose of the machine with 100 per cent accuracy.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE.

2. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE.

3. READ Student Information, THREADING THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE.

4. VIEW a teacher demonstration on the procedure used in threading the blindstitch machine.

5. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, THREADING THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE.

6. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the directions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

The Blindstitch Machine*

The blindstitch machine is used when you do not want stitches to show on the face of the material. In industry, the machine is used extensively in the hemming operation and saves a great deal of time. It also can provide an invisible hem on the face of the fabric and a finish to the raw edge of the hem. Figure 1 shows a blindstitch machine.

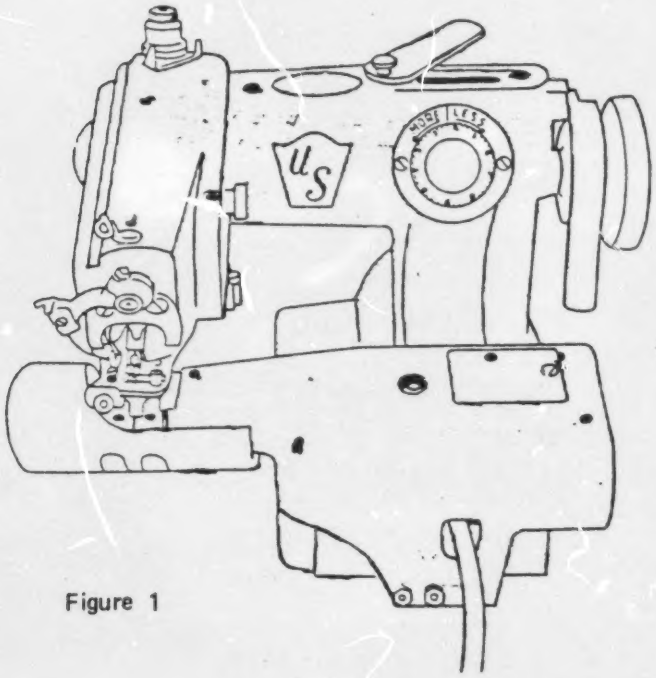


Figure 1

The blindstitch machine has a curved needle (Figure 2).

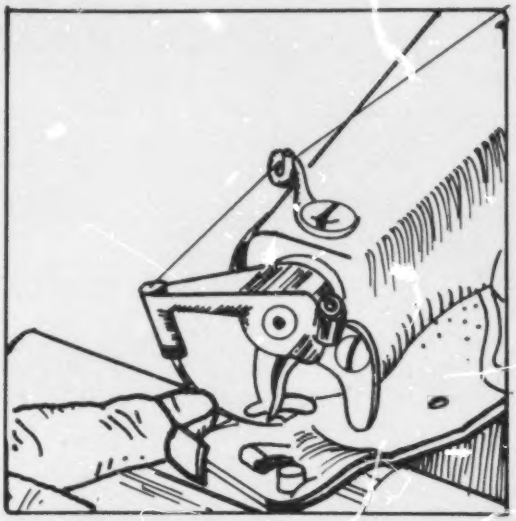


Figure 2

The needle partly enters the face ply of the material. For this reason, an invisible stitch on the face side of the material is possible (Figure 3).

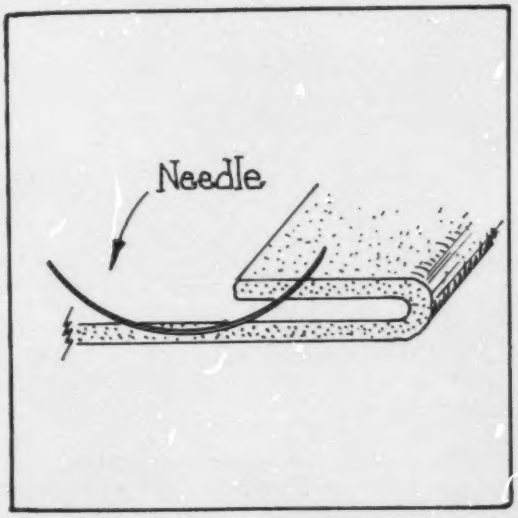


Figure 3

*Diagrams and instructions courtesy of U. S. Blindstitch Machine Corporation.

Materials vary in thickness, and the machine must be adjusted for the amount of penetration desired. The blindstitch machine incorporates a simple and convenient device to compensate for these variations. The exact degree of needle penetration desired is obtained by merely turning the penetration dial conveniently located on the front of the machine (Figure 4).

Figure 4

The amount of needle penetration of the cloth is governed by the gap between the needle and the oscillating rib which feeds the work into the needle. Figure 5 shows a minimum gap which would be used with thinner fabrics.

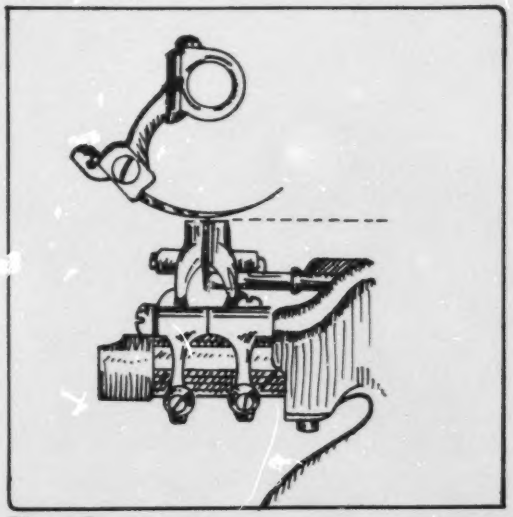


Figure 5

Figure 6 shows a large gap which would be employed with heavier fabrics. Extremely fine adjustments between these two extremes are readily obtainable.

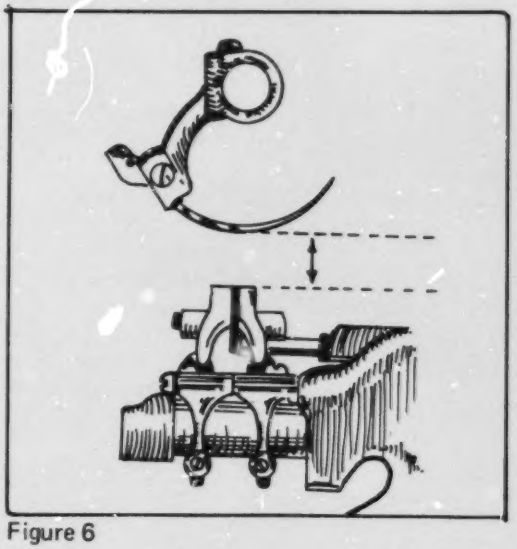


Figure 6

Another feature of the blindstitch machine is that the stitches can be set close together to provide a serged finish for the raw hem (Figure 7).

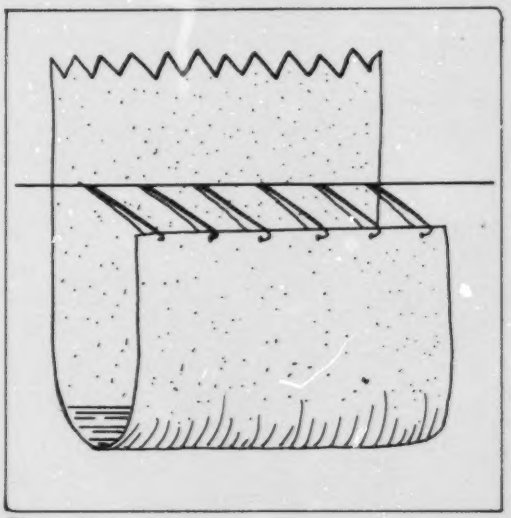


Figure 7

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

The Blindstitch Machine

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. In industry, this blindstitch machine is used to _____ garments.
2. The blindstitch machine has a _____ needle.
3. The needle partly enters the _____ ply of material.
4. The machine must be adjusted for the amount of _____ necessary for the thickness of fabric.
5. Stitches can be set to _____ the raw edge of the hem.
6. A machine with a _____ helps the operator sew a hem which is uniform in width.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Threading The Blindstitch Machine

When threading the blindstitch machine, either mercerized, silk or synthetic thread may be used. Whichever is chosen must be appropriate to the material being used.

In order to become more familiar with the machine, remove the needle by turning the penetration dial to the right ("Less") three or four numbers. This will insure that the rib is lowered sufficiently to clear the needle.

Next, loosen the needle clamp screw and slide the clamp back. When the old needle is released, remove it. Insert the new needle and push it up into the groove of the needle lever as far as it will go. Be sure that the flat on the shank of the needle faces to the back and that the needle is properly seated in the groove.

Tighten the needle clamp screw and slowly turn the handwheel. Make sure the needle passes lightly over the needle guide on the presser foot and clears the looper.

If necessary, readjust the needle penetration prior to resuming operation.

Now you are ready to thread the blindstitch machine. Turn the handwheel in the direction away from the operator. The needle should reach the extreme left hand portion of its swing. This will put it in the most convenient position for threading.

Follow these steps for proper threading of the blindstitch machine (Figure 8).

1. Pass the thread from right to left through the rear thread guide hole "A".

2. Slide the thread between the tension disc "B" and bring it out to the right of the guide arm "C".

3. Carry the thread forward and pass it through the front thread guide "D" and down through the needle clamp guide hole "E".

4. Pass the thread through the eye of the needle "F". It will enter on the underside of the needle.

5. Pull the thread through to extend past the eye of the needle by a few inches.

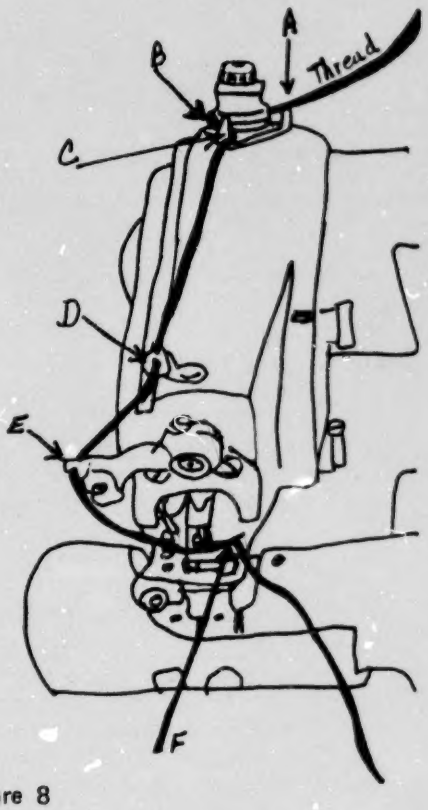


Figure 8

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Threading The Blindstitch Machine

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. The blindstitch machine uses a curved needle. (True or false)

2. The needle must be in the extreme left hand portion of its swing to be in the position for threading. (True or false)

3. Only one type of thread may be used on the blindstitch machine. (True or false)

4. The handwheel is not important in getting the blindstitch machine ready for threading. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE AND THREADING THE MACHINE.

Your instructor will provide you with a blindstitch machine and thread. Describe the purpose of the machine with 100 per cent accuracy and thread the machine properly. If this is not possible, trace the route of the thread through the machine and describe the purpose of the blindstitch machine with 100 per cent accuracy.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

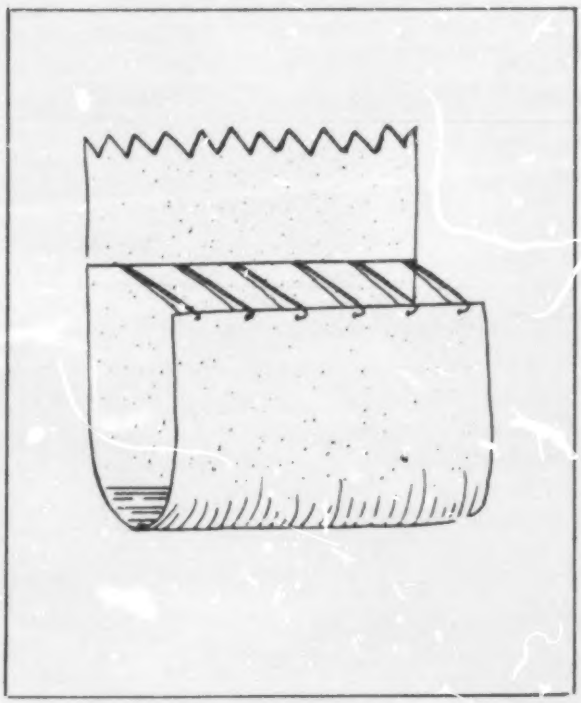
Check the student's performance in the following elements of describing the purpose of the blindstitch machine and threading the machine.

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Turned handwheel to correct position for threading.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Placed needle in correct position for threading.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Threaded the machine properly.	( )	( )	( )	( )
d. Described the purpose of the blindstitch machine.	( )	( )	( )	( )

skip stitching



PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE
(Skip Stitching)

INTRODUCTION

The blindstitch machine makes an invisible stitch on one side of the cloth as in a garment hem. This machine is very simple to operate. In this module, you will learn to perform skip stitching on a blindstitch machine.

DIRECTIONS

The module on the purpose and the threading of the blindstitch machine should be completed before beginning work on this module.

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activities and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a blindstitch machine (set with skip stitch of 2 to 1) and cloth, hem the cloth. The hem and stitching should be uniform.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, BLINDSTITCHING WITH SKIP STITCH.
2. VIEW a teacher demonstration on blindstitching with skip stitch of 2 to 1.
3. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, BLINDSTITCHING WITH SKIP STITCH.

4. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Blindstitching With Skip Stitch

There are blindstitching machines which are equipped to skip stitch. For example, if a machine is at a 2 to 1 setting, it will catch the face fabric on every other stitch but will catch the top ply on every stitch (Figure 9).

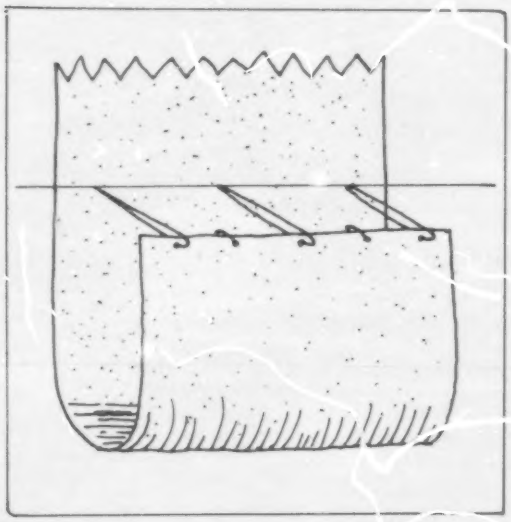


Figure 9

In addition to the skip stitch feature, many machines also have a needle positioner. When machines do not have this feature, the operator must position the needle so as not to break the needle when the thread is broken.

Follow these steps for blindstitching with a skip stitch machine setting.

1. Gather enough cloth to make at least five hems of approximately 1 yd. (0.9 m), snips, and thread.

2. Go to the blindstitch machine with skip stitch setting.

3. Check machine to see if it is threaded according to the manufacturer's specifications. If it is not already threaded, do so with foot off the treadle.

4. Turn the hand wheel in same direction as motor will turn machine until the needle reaches the extreme left-hand position of its swing.

5. Press the knee lifter to the right to drop feed frame to allow insertion of cloth.

6. Insert cloth underneath the presser foot. The edge of the hem fold is lined up with the center of the spring-loaded cloth retainer or "shoe."

7. Release the lifter. This locks the work in position.

During machine operation do not allow your knee to rest against the knee lifter. This slight pressure can affect needle penetration and result in uneven stitch quality.

8. Stitch the hem for 2 to 3 inches (5.08 to 7.62 cm) to be sure you are getting the proper penetration.

9. Do not attempt to pull the work through the machine. The machine will feed in the cloth at the proper rate.

10. Guide the cloth by resting it against the edge guide located at the presser foot.

11. Remove cloth from machine by raising knee lift. Pull material away from you; allow the needle to lock the loop to avoid raveling. Needle should be in the extreme left position; thread should be over the looper to avoid breaking the needle.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Blindstitching With Skip Stitch

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. The machine must be checked for proper threading before beginning the hemming operation. (True or false)

2. The handwheel must be turned until the needle is in the right hand position of its swing. (True or false)

3. The knee lifter, when pressed, causes the feed frame to drop and make room for the material insertion. (True or false)

4. The thread should be allowed to feed through the machine and not be pulled. (True or false)

5. A skip stitch allows for every third stitch to be dropped. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON BLINDSTITCH MACHINE (Skip Stitching).

Your instructor will provide you with a regular blindstitch machine set to skip stitch 2 to 1, cloth, thread, and snips. Make three hems.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

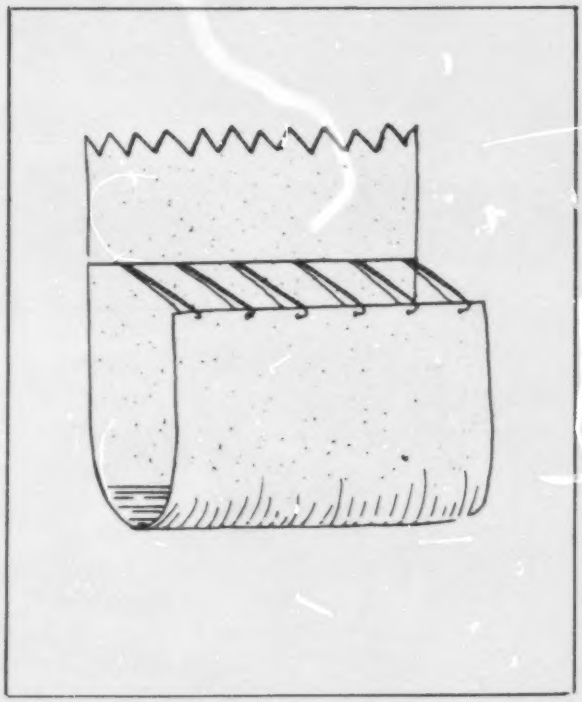
Check the student's performance in the following elements of performing special operations on blindstitch machine (skip stitching).

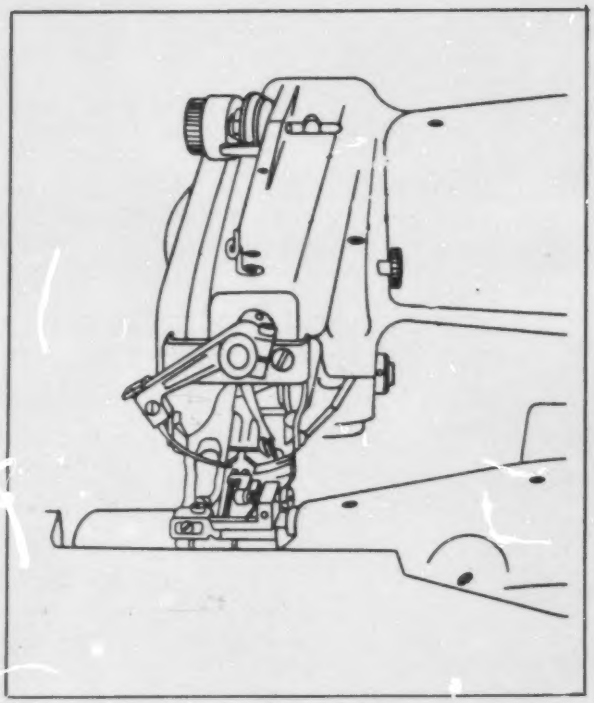
Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Constructed a hem which was uniform in width.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Had uniform stitches.	( )	( )	( )	( )

folding





PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE
(Folding)

INTRODUCTION

The blindstitch machine makes an invisible stitch on one side of the cloth as in a garment hem. This machine is very simple to operate. In this module, you will learn to perform simple operations on a blindstitch machine using the folder attachment.

DIRECTIONS

All other modules on blindstitching should be completed before beginning work on this module.

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities, and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a blindstitch machine with a folder attachment and a piece of cloth, hem the cloth. The hem and the stitching should be uniform. No skipped stitches should be evident.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, HEMMING ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE WITH A FOLDER ATTACHMENT.
2. VIEW a teacher demonstration on the blindstitch machine using the folder attachment.
3. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, HEMMING ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE WITH A FOLDER ATTACHMENT.
4. TURN to the Check-Out Activities and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Hemming On The Blindstitch Machine With A Folder Attachment

Blindstitch machines with folders help the operator maintain a uniform hem width. The operator guides the cloth through the folder with the right hand and disposes of the cloth with the left hand (Figure 10).

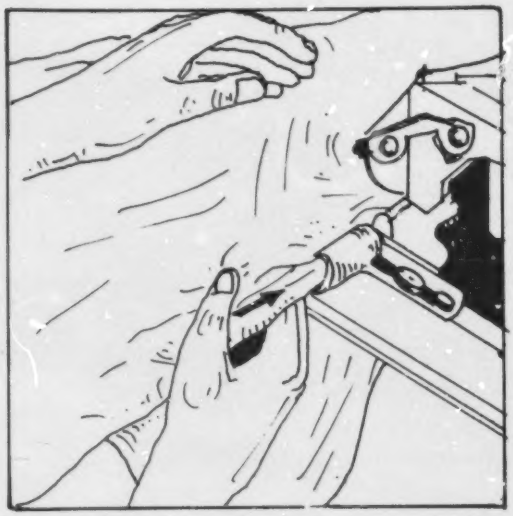


Figure 10

Follow these steps when hemming with a folder.

1. Select enough cloth to make at least five hems of approximately 1 yard (0.9 meters), snips, and thread.
2. Go to the blindstitch machine with a folder.
3. Check machine to see if it is threaded according to the manufacturer's specifications. If it is not already threaded, do so.
4. Turn the hand wheel in same direction as motor turns machine until the needle reaches the extreme left hand position of its swing.
5. Press the knee lifter to the right. This drops the feed frame and creates a gap between the presser foot and the plattens.
6. Insert cloth underneath the presser foot. The edge of the hem fold is lined up with the center of the spring-loaded cloth retainer or "shoe."
7. Release the lifter. This locks the work in position (Figure 11).

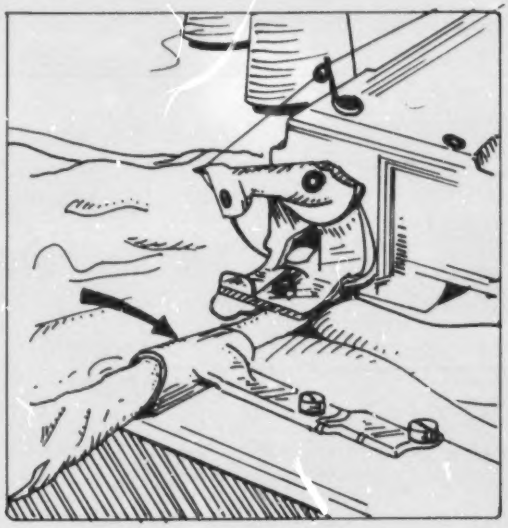


Figure 11

8. Guide the cloth through the folder with the right hand.

   During machine operation do not allow your knee to rest against the knee lifter. This slight pressure can affect needle penetration and result in uneven stitch quality.
9. Stitch the hem for 2 to 3 inches (5.08 to 7.62 cm) to be sure you are getting the proper penetration.
10. The machine will feed in the cloth at the proper rate. Dispose of the cloth with the left hand.
11. Remove cloth from machine by raising knee lift. Pull material away from you; allow the needle to lock the loop to avoid raveling.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Hemming On The Blindstitch Machine With A Folder Attachment

1. Machine must be checked for proper threading before beginning the hemming operation. (True or false)

2. The knee lifter, when pressed, causes the feed frame to drop and make room for inserting the material. (True or false)

3. The hem fold should be in line with the cloth retainer or "shoe." (True or false)

4. The thread should be allowed to feed through the machine, not be pulled. (True or false)

5. The knee lifter should be raised and the material pulled away from the operator. This will allow the needle to lock the loop to avoid raveling after finishing the hem. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE BLINDSTITCH MACHINE (Folding).

Your instructor will provide you with a regular blindstitch machine with a folder attachment, cloth, thread, and snips. Make five hems using the folder. Hems should be uniform in width with no skipped stitches.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

Check the student's performance in the following elements of performing special operations on the blindstitch machine (folding).

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Constructed a hem which was uniform in width.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Had uniformity in stitches.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Had no skipped stitches.	( )	( )	( )	( )